Development of youth tourism during 8th Plan

2490. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to promo e youth tourism in the country;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken thereon during the current financial year in this regard; and

(c) what are the details of such progr-ammes or schemes for the eighth plan period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO CINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In a recently concluded International Conference on Youth Tou-rism held in New Delhi, a number of recommendations for the development and promotion of Youth tourism were made which would be considered and acted upon by Ministries/Departments concerned with the development of youth tourism during the 8th Plan.

Ticket racket in Indian Airlines

2491. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of ticket racket in the Indian Airlines, if so, give details;

(b) whether it is also a fact that recently a passenger boarded flight No. IC 108 from Bangalore to Bombay with a boarding pass but without a ticket, if so, give details; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to avoid this kind of situation in future and what steps Government have taken against the erring officers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, one passenger with duplicate boarding pass was found on board IC-108 operating on sector Bangalore-Bombay on 18-11-1991. The passenger allegedly obtained the boarding card through a friend by paying money. An inquiry is being conducted by Indian Airlines' Vigilance Department and suitable action will be taken on the basis of the report.

Purchase of Rolls Royce engines for Boeing 747

2492. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the first quarter of 1990 a committee comprising the then Chairman Air India, Finance Director and two nomi-nees of his Ministry had recommended the purchase of 11 Rolls Royce RB-2-11 524G engines for installation in two Boe-ing, 747s which would augment Air India's fleet;

(b) whether the *Arunachalam panel suggested that Rolls Royce was not the right choice, for both technical and econo-mic reasons; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up an Expert Committee to go into the controversial deal and if not, reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA-TION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Air India had initially recommended selection of Rolls Royce engine.

(b) A high level Expert Committee headed by Dr. V. S. Arunachalam evalua-ted the alternatives and, based on this, fresh offers were obtained for Pratt & Whitney and General Electric engines. The contract was awarded to the manufa-cturers of Pratt & Whitney engines on the basis of superior techno-economic offer.

(c) Does not arise.

Ten points strategy to boost tourism

2493. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will theMinister of CIVIL AVIA TION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Secretary has suggested a ten point strategy to boost tourism and step up the foreign exchange earnings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have since examined the proposed strategy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the points of strategy Government propose to adopt?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVTATIO AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e)The Union Planning Secretary, in his personal capacity, had enumerated a 10-point strategy to boost tourism at the Annual Convention of Travel Agents Association of India at Goa in September 1991. The suggestions made such as massive promotion campaign for inviting tourists, massive construction programme for hotels—both luxury and economy, a tourism related comprehensive area development programme, upgradation of tourist coaches and taxies, etc. are part of on-going Government strategy for boosting tourism.

Special passes for representative of M.Ps. for airport entrance

2494. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to issue an order so that no frisking is required for MPs and Ex-MPs at the airports; and

(b) if so, whether Government also plan to issue special passes for atleast one representative of MPs at different airports in the country to enable them to enter the airport to receive and send off MPs during their tours?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Helicopter service between Madras and Tirupati

2495. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce helicopter services between Madras and Tirupati; and

(b) if so, by when these services are likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Irregular air services for Tirupati

2496. SHRIT. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that serveral complaints of irregularities have been received regarding the operation of Vayu doot Services to Tirupati, a pilgrim centre;

(b) if so, whether these have been looked into; and

(c) whether it is proposed to link Tiru pati with Indian Airlines Services?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Compiatots have been received on irregular flights of Vayudoot to Tirupati.

(b) Yes, Sir. within the. constraint of of resources, remedial action has been taken.

(c) No, Sir.

Appointment of booking agents by Indian Airlines

2497. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of authorised booking agents of Indian Airlines functioning under its Gauhati, Jorhat, Dimapur and Dibrugarh stations along with the respective dates when they were so appointed ;

(b) the details of new appointments of booking agents by Indian Airlines under these stations, stationwise during the last five years, year-wise details;

(c) the amount of direct sales generated by these four stations during the last five years, stationwise upto November, 1991;

(d) the amount of sales generated by booking agents under the said stations, and the amount of sales commission paid to these booking agents, during the last five years upto November, 1991; and

(e) whether any of the said agents has applied to Indian Airlines for provision of Computerised Reservation Terminal (CRT) facility at his/their office, if so, the names of such agents and by when they will be provided with the CRT facility ?